

INFORMATION PAPER

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SUBJECT: Battle Command Knowledge System (BCKS)

1. Purpose. To provide information on the Battle Command Knowledge System

2. Facts.

a. The Battle Command Knowledge System (BCKS) is the Army's enterprise-level Knowledge Management (KM) program. It supports Soldiers, leaders, and teams in the rapid collaboration and sharing of expertise and experience to solve problems, increase individual and organizational performance, and enhance unit readiness.

b. Knowledge Management is the disciplined process of creating, organizing, protecting, and applying knowledge to facilitate situational understanding and decision making while improving organizational performance. KM processes ensure that knowledge products and services are relevant, accurate, timely, and useable to commanders and decision makers.

c. Our specified mission is to support the online generation, application, management and exploitation of Army knowledge to foster collaboration among Soldiers and Units in order to share expertise and experience; facilitate leader development and intuitive decision making; and support the development of organizations and teams.

d. Through the support KM provides to Army Learning Organizations that include professional military education, development of military doctrine and theory, collective training, and lessons learned, BCKS supports the development of agile and adaptive soldiers, leaders, and teams across the range of dynamic, full-spectrum operations.

e. A cadre of military, civilian, and contractor personnel based at Fort Leavenworth, KS provide support to a network of Knowledge Management Officers (KMO) and Knowledge Management Advisors (KMA) at units and installations throughout the Army. Contractor support to BCKS includes Cubic Defense Applications of San Diego, CA the Triple-I Corporation of Overland Park, KS and Lockheed Martin of Bethesda, MD.

f. BCKS supports the development and integration of KM in Army doctrinal publications and professional education programs; provides training for KMOs assigned to brigades, divisions, and corps; creates, facilitates, and maintains professional forums and virtual communities that support leaders, staffs, and functional specialists in

collaboration and knowledge sharing both horizontally and vertically across functional boundaries and at multiple echelons; and supports the sharing of KM best-practices with other services, government agencies, industry, academia, and multi-national partners.

g Support provided from Fort Leavenworth includes coordination with the Command and General Staff College (CGSC), Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL), Combined Arms Doctrine Division (CADD), TRADOC Program Integration Office – Battle Command (TPIO-BC), Center for Army Leadership (CAL), Battle Command Training Program (BCTP), and other Combined Arms Center (CAC) organizations, other TRADOC and FORSCOM units and activities, Army Knowledge On-Line (AKO), and Department of the Army (DA) Staff. BCKS also supports Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) and Joint Staff organizations in KM related analysis and requirements development, to include supporting the development of the Joint Knowledge Development and Distribution Capability (JKDDC).

h. BCKS has also worked directly with KM professionals from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Federal Reserve to exchange ideas on KM best practices, techniques, and lessons learned. Officers assigned to BCKS have been invited to speak at national KM and e-Government conferences to share experiences from development of our KM program and communities of practice.

i. The TRADOC Deputy Commanding General, Combined Arms, is under consideration by the Army G-3 to become the specified Army proponent for KM. As his lead agency to support KM, BCKS would develop transformed processes and business rules to ensure that the knowledge generation-processing-application cycle is institutionalized to provide ongoing, near real-time support to the Army's battle command, doctrine development, leader development and education and training programs. The main thrust is to support the Army's operational force with the secondary thrust to supporting the generating force as part of the Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) process.

j. The seven objectives of BCKS are to:

1. Enhance Professional Education.
2. Facilitate Exchange of Knowledge.
3. Foster Leader Development.
4. Support Doctrine Development.
5. Support Lessons Learned.
6. Support Training.
7. Enhance Battle Command.

k. The point of contact at BCKS is the Knowledge Management Strategist, 913-684-3364.